

# COUNSELOR COMMUNIQUE

VOL. 14 NO. 4

Missouri Substance Abuse Counselors' Certification Board, Inc.

October 2003

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## MSACCB Staff Changes

As most of you are aware, the State of Missouri is experiencing serious revenue shortfalls which have resulted in budget cuts to the Division of Alcohol and Drug Abuse. This has resulted in some staff reassignments as well as elimination of some staff positions.

The most recent reductions have resulted in a staff change which impacts staff assigned to the MSACCB. The position of Mental Health Manager to which Jodi Haupt was assigned to the MSACCB has been eliminated. Jodi has been reassigned to serve as the SATOP Coordinator for the Division of Alcohol and Drug Abuse. Jodi will be sadly missed by Board Staff, the Board of Directors and our Counselors in the field. Under Jodi's guidance, the Certification Board has seen many positive changes over the years. We wish Jodi the best in her new position.

Shelby Hearne, Danette Henderson and Cheryl Mealy will continue to provide staff support to the Certification Board.

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## October 31, 2003, Renewal

Renewal materials for the October 31, 2003, renewal cycle for RASAC II's, CSAPP's, CSAC I & II's and CASAC's were mailed during September 2003. Renewal materials must be postmarked by October 31, 2003. A 30 day grace period is available through November 30, 2003, with a payment of a late fee of \$75.00. Renewal materials postmarked after November 30, 2003, will result in an expired credential. If your address has changed and you have not notified the Certification Board office, please do so immediately.

Should you lose or misplace your renewal packet there is a \$25.00 replacement fee. You may request an additional renewal packet by phone or fax and the additional charge will be listed on the renewal packet form for you to pay when you submit your renewal fee. If you need further clarification, please call us.

Should you still need to obtain contact hours for renewal, please view the MSACCB web site for a listing of pre-approved trainings, workshops, conferences, home study courses as well as internet courses.

[www.dmh.missouri.gov/msaccb/](http://www.dmh.missouri.gov/msaccb/)

# MSACCB Board Members

**John Gary, President**  
Southeastern Region

**Ron Cohen, Vice-President**  
Eastern Region

**Stan Landon, Secretary**  
Central Region

**Tom Gaudette, Treasurer**  
Northwestern Region

**Carolyn Hale**  
Southwestern Region

**Ann Cobb**  
Member-at-Large

**Fran Joy**  
Member-at-Large

**John Bowen**  
Member-at-Large

**J.B. Woolverton**  
MACA Representative

**Andrew L. Homer, Ph.D**  
Div. of Alcohol & Drug Abuse

**Scott Jordan**  
State Advisory Council

**Mary Vorsten**  
Past President

## MSACCB Office Staff

**Shelby Hearne**  
Counselor Certification Spec.

**Danette Henderson**  
Board Assistant

**Cheryl Mealy**  
Counselor Certification Spec.

## Suspensions/Revocations Since July 1, 2003

T. Danielle Tubbs-Telkamp-6 months  
Suspension

## Missouri Substance Abuse Counselors' Certification Board, Inc.

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Email:

MSACCB @mail.dmh.state.mo.us

Web Page:

<http://www.dmh.missouri.gov/msaccb/>

## SAMHSA's National Clearinghouse for Alcohol and Drug Information

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's (SAMHSA) National Clearinghouse for Alcohol and Drug Abuse Information (NCADI) is the Nation's one-stop resource for the most current and comprehensive information about substance abuse and prevention. They distribute the latest studies and surveys, guides, videocassettes, and other types of information and materials on substance abuse from various sources such as the U.S. Department of Education, Labor, and Health and Human Services (HHS). Sources for substance abuse information from HHS include: SAMSHA's Center for Substance Abuse Prevention, SAMSHA's Center for Substance Abuse Treatment, SAMSHA's Office of Applied Studies, the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, and the National Institute on Drug Abuse both within the National Institute of Health.

You may view their web site at [www.ncadi.samhsa.gov](http://www.ncadi.samhsa.gov)

## Newly Credentialed

### RASAC I

|                   |                    |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| Kronona Cole      | Lon Holder         |
| Kim Shannon       | Jim Bayhülle       |
| Tonja Riley       | Philip Hotop       |
| Daniel Claverie   | Steven Russ        |
| Rochelle Nevels   | Matthew Goedken    |
| RoseMary Wallace. | Roger Crossgrove   |
| Tina McMullin     | Jennifer Stroot    |
| Richard Wilson    | Catherine Hawkins  |
| Anita Dawson      | Heather McClain    |
| Robin Osborn      | DeAndre'Harris-Bey |
| Shirlean Johnson  | Janet Petty        |
| Brenda Vaughan    | Terri J. Martin    |
| Amy Voiles        |                    |

### RASAC II

|                        |                   |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| Sheree Zoelzer         | Catherine Buehrle |
| Earlene Malik          | Carrie Rogers     |
| Stephen Summers        |                   |
| Beverly Svoboda-Bowman |                   |

### CSAC's/CASAC's by Reciprocity

|                |               |
|----------------|---------------|
| Sabrina Watson | Mark McDonald |
|----------------|---------------|

### CSAPP

Suzanne Hughes

## IC&RC Written and CPM Test Dates

### CSAPP/CSAC/CASAC Exams

#### 2003

**Written Test:** December 13, 2003  
(Application Deadline: August 4, 2003)

**CPM:** September 26, 2003  
September 27, 2003

#### 2004

**Written Test:** June 12, 2004  
(Application Deadline: February 4, 2004)

December 11, 2004  
(Application Deadline August 4, 2004)

**CPM:** April 17, 2004  
September 11, 2004

## AODA Practice Exam

A practice test is now available online for candidates preparing for the AODA counselor written examination through the IC&RC. The test is designed to aid individuals preparing for the credentialing examination. It is built to the same specifications as the actual examination and helps familiarize people with the format of the test and the types of questions that will appear. Scores are immediately available, and the test may provide diagnostic feedback to assess a candidate's strengths or weaknesses. The cost of the practice exam is \$35.00 and can be accessed by visiting the website for:

**CASTLE Worldwide, Inc., [www.castlelearning.com](http://www.castlelearning.com).**

## Is the Internet Becoming a Haven for Diploma Mills?

As the concept of earning a degree without leaving home becomes more accepted, the most virtual of virtual universities – better known as digital diploma mills – are gaining enrollees. Many fraudulent diploma mills are capitalizing on the growth in popularity of distance learning opportunities and are using the freedom of the Internet to lure students into their programs.”

Diploma mills have existed for decades. They often operate out of phone boiler rooms with high-pressure telemarketers who follow-up email requests and web site visits with an aggressive enrollment approach via the telephone. They are known to advertise heavily in magazines, on the Internet in news groups, and at impressive-looking web sites. In many cases they prey on people’s lack of knowledge and confusion about accreditation. And, they often advertise as being “fully accredited”, “nationally accredited”, or accredited worldwide.” If these diploma mills are accredited, it is usually by unrecognized or even bogus agencies.

How can you tell the difference between legitimate online universities and diploma mills? The Better Business Bureau suggests you do some homework and watch for these red flags:

- Degrees that can be earned in less time than at a traditional college.
- A list of accrediting agencies that sounds a little too impressive. Some schools list accreditation by organizations that are not recognized by the U.S. Department of Education, or imply official approval by mentioning state “registration” or licensing. When in doubt check with the Council on Higher Education Accreditation. ([www.chea.org](http://www.chea.org))
- Offers that place heavy emphasis on offering college credits for lifetime or real world experience.
- Tuition paid on a per-degree basis, or discounts for enrolling in multiple degree programs. Traditional colleges charge by credit hour, course or semester.
- Little or no interaction with professors.
- Names that are similar to well-known reputable universities.
- Addresses that are box numbers or suites. That campus may very well be a mail drop box or someone’s attic.

If you still have doubts, contact your Better Business Bureau or the state attorney general’s office to make sure the school is operating legally in a state and to see if anyone has filed a complaint. A bogus degree from a diploma mill is not likely to impress prospective employers and could be a complete waste of money.

(reprinted with permission of the Council of Better Business Bureaus)

(The Certification Board office has received numerous inquiries regarding acceptance of distance learning degrees. The Board accepts only distance learning degrees from college/universities that have been accredited by either United States Department of Education (USDE) or Council on Higher Education Accreditation (Chea). It appears that several applicants and counselors have obtained degrees that will not be accepted by the Certification Board.)

***IC&RC Announces SAP Examination Administrations***

Falls Church, VA – The first administration of the Substance Abuse Professional (SAP) examination offered through the International Certification & Reciprocity Consortium/Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse (IC&RC) has been scheduled for June 2003.

The examination was psychometrically developed in accordance with the new requirements included in the definition of a Substance Abuse Professional (SAP) outlined by the United States Department of Transportation (DOT), and going into effect on January 1, 2004. The DOT has defined several requirements that will need to be documented by an individual in order to meet the SAP guidelines, including the completion of SAP training and passing an SAP examination.

DOT Drug and Alcohol Testing Rules, 49 CFR Part 40, which appeared in the December 19, 1999, Federal Register, as of January 1, require SAPs to document participation in formal qualifying training covering the nine content areas specified in Section 281, then satisfactorily complete an SAP examination given by a nationally recognized organization. ICRC is one of DOT's nationally-recognized organizations specified in the regulations. SAPs then must maintain their credential by documenting participation in at least 12 hours of SAP-related training and professional development over the next three years.

"IC&RC has a responsibility to provide a quality examination that meets the requirements as stipulated by the DOT is available for the thousands of individuals that will need to complete the exam to continue to meet the SAP definition by the end of this year," said IC&RC President Jim Scarborough. "It was important for IC&RC to provide a meaningful exam that meets the requirements and is administered in the same manner as our certification examinations to ensure the integrity of the process."

There are five credentials recognized by the DOT in the SAP definition. IC&RC represents more than 30,000 professionals that meet the definition of an SAP under the guidelines. The definition also includes licensed or certified social workers, psychologists, employee assistance professionals, physicians (Doctor of Medicine or Osteopathy) and drug and alcohol counselors certified by the National Association of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Counselors Certification Commission (NAADAC). The IC&RC examination is being made available to all professionals needing to fulfill the DOT requirements.

The SAP examination is being administered through IC&RC member boards and will be available during all regularly scheduled exam administration dates through the year. IC&RC member boards and exam dates can be found at: [www.icrcaoda.org](http://www.icrcaoda.org).

## **Revised Inactive Status Effective July 17, 2003**

Only certified counselors or prevention professionals in good standing who do not use their credential for employment purposes may request at the time of their renewal to place their credential on inactive status. Board staff will review and process the requests for inactive status.

(1) At the time of their renewal when they request inactive status, the certified counselor or prevention professional will only pay half of the renewal fee, complete the demographic information on the renewal form and sign the code of ethics and authorization and release.

(2) At each renewal date to follow that the certified counselor or prevention professional wishes to remain on inactive status – they pay half the current renewal fee and submit half the education hours required for that renewal period; complete the renewal forms and sign the code of ethics and authorization and release.

(3) To return to active status at their renewal date, the certified counselor or prevention professional will pay the full renewal fee and submit the total number of education hours required complete the renewal forms and sign the code of ethics and authorization and release.

(4) Should a certified counselor or prevention professional wish to return to active status at any point before their next renewal dates they will pay the full renewal fee and submit the total number of renewal hours required. Their renewal date will remain the same and they will be required to submit the full renewal fee and total number of hours required for their renewal.

## **Too Good To Be True?**

When you are faced with making a decision about yet another credential for the substance abuse field, ask the offering organization these questions:

- How was the role delineation study conducted? (This serves as a blueprint for examination development)
- Who did the research and are the results available for review?
- Whose standards did they follow in developing the examination?
- Who recognizes this certificate nationally or internationally?
- Who recognizes this certificate in Missouri?
- Is the organization a credentialing board or simply a group looking to get into the “credentialing business?”

Research any organization offering credentials before deciding to purchase what they are selling to ensure they are not a credential mill. There are many offerings of credentials for sale and many are legitimate, however, some are not. If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is.

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***Studying for the Certification Exams?***

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## **Board Accepting Nominations for Regional Representative**

The term of office for Southwestern Region Representative and the Northwestern Region Representative will expire on December 31, 2003. Letters will be sent to the certified counselors in that region in September 2003, asking for nominations from the regions. Nominations must be in written form and no more than 100 words. The deadline for nominating individuals or self-nomination will be September 15, 2003.

Ballots will be sent to all certified counselors the end of September 2003. Ballots are due back in the Certification Board office by October 15, 2003. The election results will be tallied. If there are no ties, the newly elected representative will be invited to attend the November 2003 Board meeting. If there are ties, a run-off election will be held. Also, a short biography of the individual will be presented in the January 2004 issue of the Counselor Communique.

Duties of the Regional Representatives include:

- Attend six (6) Board of Directors meetings each year
- Be asked to sit on Ethics Hearing Panel as needed
- Hearings held the day prior to regularly scheduled Board meetings
- Chairing the Credentials Committee in their respective region.
- Acting as a liaison between the counselors in their region and the MSACCB.
- Willing to sit on or chair various MSACCB Committees.
- Willing to hold an elected office on the Board of Directors.

If you should have additional questions regarding this, please call the Board office.



# MSACCB APPROVED HOMESTUDY TRAININGS

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Domestic Violence & Substance Abuse  
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Substance Abuse and Older Adults  
Three Theories of Counseling: Psychoanalytic, Cognitive & Reality Approaches  
Motivational Counseling  
Brief Interventions in Chemical Dependency  
Dual Diagnosis: Mood Disorders

### **10 hour course – \$75 –NEW**

*Case Management Issues*

### **8 hour courses – \$65 each**

Mental Status Assessment in Addiction Settings  
Health Issues for Addiction Setting Employees  
Understanding Withdrawal & Detoxification  
Drugs of Abuse

Adolescent Treatment Issues

### **7 hour courses – \$60 each**

Criteria Based Documentation  
Group Counseling: Process & Techniques

### **6 hour courses- \$50 each**

21<sup>st</sup> Century Ethics in Counseling  
Clinical Supervision Principles, Techniques & Methods  
Values Driven Addiction Supervision  
Defense Mechanisms/Coping Strategies  
Addiction Based Treatment Planning  
HIV/AIDS Training  
The AIDS Rollercoaster: Counseling the HIV Client  
Ethics Training  
Dual Diagnosis-Assessment Issues  
Aspirational Ethics  
Cultural Diversity in Counseling

### **NEW- 6 hour courses – \$50 each**

*Cognitive-behavioral Treatment of Cocaine Addiction*  
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